

cancer. The town of Ramsey, Harrison County, and the state of Indiana lost a proud and prominent member of their community. I am privileged to have had such an outstanding Hoosier as a constituent and I cannot see any greater honor for a father, husband, community leader, employer, veteran and friend known for his dedication to family, faith, business and community, Wilfred Edward Sieg, Sr., Cousin Willie than by bestowing this honor upon him.

COLLEGE ACCESS AND  
OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 30, 2006*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 609) to amend and extend the Higher Education Act of 1965:

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to support H.R. 609, the College Access and Opportunity Act. While this bill to reauthorize the Higher Education Act is by no means perfect, the bill represents an expanded opportunity and a chance to succeed for the hundreds of thousands of minority students who dream of obtaining a college degree. That is why I plan to vote for the bill today.

College degrees open many doors to the future. Students that obtain bachelor degrees have on average higher earning potentials, more competitive jobs, and higher standards of living. But many minority students are unable to obtain a college degree because they lack the necessary resources to do so, and as a result the doors to opportunity often remain closed. Data from 2000 shows that only 13 percent of Hispanics and 15 percent of Blacks in California earned a bachelor's degree, compared to 31 percent for Caucasians.

Despite its flaws, H.R. 609 contains key provisions that will help Hispanics and other minorities succeed academically from the day they enter Kindergarten to the day they receive their college diploma and beyond.

The bill supports minorities in elementary and secondary education by recruiting minorities to the teaching profession and focusing on the needs of Limited English Proficient students.

In addition, the bill creates new "Centers for Excellence" programs that will prepare teachers, including minority teachers, to become "Highly Qualified" in K-12 classrooms.

Beyond high school, the bill reauthorizes the High School Equivalency Program (HEP) that assists low-income migrant and seasonal farmworkers to obtain a high school diploma or certificate, and it reauthorizes the College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP) that provides tutoring and counseling to migrant students in their first year of college.

The bill also supports Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) by establishing a new HSI grant for graduate degrees and by eliminating the two-year wait between grant applications.

In closing let me highlight some of my concerns, which I hope will be addressed as the bill moves through the process to passage. In particular, I am concerned that the bill does

not invest in critical student aid programs on a high enough level. The most telling example is that of Pell Grants, which help many disadvantaged children to go to college. This bill would set maximum Pell Grants at the abysmally low amount of \$6,000. I was especially disappointed that Democrats were not allowed to offer an amendment to authorize higher funding levels for Pell Grants and other student aid and support programs.

Nevertheless, this bill does provide a much needed single definition of higher education and reauthorizes successful programs such as GEAR UP, TRIO, grants for alcohol and drug abuse prevention, and the Perkins Loan. These efforts to strengthen existing programs and provide benefits for Hispanic and other minority students who dream of a college education led me to vote for H.R. 609 today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 25, 2006*

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, on the evening of April 6, 2006, I was unable to vote due to an important prescheduled speaking engagement, for which I was granted a leave of absence. I would like the RECORD to reflect that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call vote numbers 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98 and 99.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND JEROME  
A. GREENE

**HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 25, 2006*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rev. Jerome A. Greene, a dear friend, who used his life to uplift and empower others. Although Reverend Greene passed away on August 23, 2004, his lifetime of service lives on in the hearts and minds of the residents of the Bronx. On Wednesday, April 19, 2006, his city and his home borough will show its gratitude to this remarkable man by renaming Teller Avenue between E. 168th and E. 169th "Reverend Jerome A. Greene Place".

Reverend Greene was born March 12, 1941 in Welch, West Virginia to Emmanuel Greene and Savannah Elsie Anderson. As a young man he led the fight for the integration of his high school in West Virginia and became the first black male to graduate with honors. Upon graduating from high school, he moved to Queens, NY and enrolled in City College. Graduating with a degree in education, Greene began his teaching career in Harlem in 1963.

In 1967, Reverend Greene left the public school system to serve as Director of Programming, Evaluation, Education and Training at the Morrisania Community Progress Center. Although he was no longer with the public school system, Reverend Greene remained committed to improving the educational experience of New York students. Realizing the importance of putting more teachers in the classroom, he helped to secure millions of dollars

to create more than 600 paraprofessional jobs in various school districts. His efforts not only earned him the nickname "Father of Paraprofessionals" but the respect and admiration of the young men and women he helped to employ, myself included. My experiences as a paraprofessional in the late 1960's provided me with a unique understanding of the public school system and helped to shape my career as a public servant. I will always be grateful to Reverend Greene for helping to open the door that enabled me to serve my community.

In 1975, Reverend Greene married his beloved Aurelia and for 29 years they worked side by side in an effort to improve the lives of the residents of the Bronx. It was not long after his marriage that he began teaching prayer ministry in his home, which ultimately became the Bronx Christian Charismatic Prayer Fellowship, Inc. In 1991, the church moved to its current location on Third Avenue in the Bronx, providing the good Reverend with more space to teach the benefits of living a virtuous life.

Reverend Greene also served as Treasurer and Chairperson of Bronx Community Board #4 and was elected Male District leader of the 77th Assembly District, where he served until his passing in 2004.

The recipient of many civic and professional awards, Reverend Greene was well loved and well respected. His works will continue to impact the lives of New Yorkers for generations to come. Surely, that is the mark of a great life.

May "Reverend Jerome A. Greene Place" forever stand as a reminder of his selfless efforts to improve the lives of his fellow man and may it compel us all to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, for his indomitable spirit that continues to inspire even though he has passed on, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Rev. Jerome A. Greene.

TRIBUTE TO GRAND RABBI OF  
SATMOR, RABBI MOSES  
TEITELBAUM

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 25, 2006*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join the Satmar and Jewish communities across the world in mourning the passing of the Grand Rabbi of Satmar, Rabbi Moses Teitelbaum. Thousands amassed in Brooklyn and Monroe, New York on short notice to show their respect and admiration. It is indeed a tribute to Rabbi Teitelbaum's leadership that the Satmar community now numbering over 120,000, experienced remarkable growth during his tenure.

Rabbi Teitelbaum's life was one of perseverance, dedication and commitment to the Satmar and Jewish communities. A survivor of Auschwitz and the Holocaust, Rabbi Teitelbaum began a new life in the United States after he lost his immediate family to the Nazi genocide. As perhaps a tribute to his life, his first great, great granddaughter was born on the day the Rebbe passed away.

I was blessed with the opportunity to meet with the Grand Rabbi on numerous occasions in his home in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. A simple and humble man, his poignant advice and